

233 South Wacker Drive Suite 800, Sears Tower Chicago, IL 60606

312-454-0400 (voice) 312-454-0411 (fax) www.chicagoareaplanning.org

To: Environment and Natural Resources Working Committee

Date: May 29, 2007

From: Bob Dean, Associate Regional Planner

Re: Regional Vision Development

This memo summarizes the discussion of goals that occurred at the May 2, 2007 meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources working committee and actions requested for the June and August meetings. During the meeting, the committee identified the main ideas within the existing goals that were central to their mission. Also, the committee discussed why it was important for the regional vision to address these main ideas.

Staff has prepared a draft list of the major themes that were mentioned several times during the discussion. The table below summarizes these themes and their relation to the initial goals:

Major Themes (mentioned many times)	Related Goals	
Climate change	Air quality, Balanced economy and environment, Energy	
Coordinated planning and	Biodiversity and natural communities, Intergovernmental	
government	cooperation, Planning	
	Air quality, Biodiversity and natural communities,	
Ecosystem health	Environmental protection, Farmland preservation, Lake	
Ecosystem health	Michigan, Open space, Public transportation and environment,	
	Water quality	
Environmental protection =	Balanced economy and environment, Energy, Lake Michigan,	
economic development	Water quality, Water supply	
Public health	Air quality, Energy, Environmental protection, Farmland	
1 done nearth	preservation, Stormwater, Support for agriculture	
Quality of life	Infrastructure, Open space, Public transportation and	
Quality of life	environment, Redevelopment, Water quality	
Dogianal identity	Biodiversity and natural communities, Farmland preservation,	
Regional identity	Lake Michigan, Support for agriculture	
Other Important Themes	Related Goals	
(mentioned a few times)	Related Goals	
Education	Environmental education	
Reinvestment and infill	Infrastructure, Redevelopment	
Sustainability	Energy, Farmland preservation	
Water supply	Stormwater, Water quality, Water supply	

The major themes that are identified through the working committee process and the regional visioning event will form the basis for the regional vision. For example, if "coordinated planning and government" is identified as a major theme, the vision will include a statement such as: "In 2040, decision-making by the region's governments will feature a high degree of cooperation and coordination, and will consider the regional effects of local decisions." (*Please note that this is an example, and the regional vision may not contain this particular statement.*)

Attached to this document is a summary of the discussion that occurred at the May 2 meeting. This attachment was used by staff as the basis for identifying the major themes listed above.

Action Requested

The committee will be asked to discuss these themes in detail at their August meeting to confirm that these are the committee's priorities going into the visioning event, and to determine if these can be combined or prioritized. At the June meeting, the committee will be asked for initial feedback concerning whether there are any themes on this list that should not be there, or whether there are any critical themes that do not appear on this list. However, the committee will not be asked to resolve any suggestions, as this will be done at the August meeting.

Attachment Summary of May 2, 2007 Environment and Natural Resources Committee Discussion

Goal	Main ideas	Reasons to address these ideas
Air quality	Healthy, clean air	Public health
		Ecosystem impacts
		Climate change
		Global impact
		Ecological health
Balanced economy and	Environmental stewardship =	
environment	economic development	Environmental costs of action / inaction
	1	Externalities
		Environment has economic value
		Environment has positive effect on
		economic growth
Biodiversity and	Natural resource lands for native	Interrelatedness of species and
natural communities	species	ecosystems
	1	Public / private responsibility
		Preserve genetic variation
		Uniqueness of Chicago area
Energy	Efficiency, clean, renewable	Climate change
211016)	Zinciency, eleun, renewable	Health
		Affordability
		Sustainable
		Economics of clean energy
Environmental		Education leads to action - only way to
education	Awareness, values	protect
Environmental	Improve environmental quality	Preserve and provide green
protection	through planning	infrastructure
protection	unough planning	Improve water quality
		Public health
Farmland preservation	Incontinue custainability coil	Rural heritage
rannanu preservation	Incentives, sustainability, soil	Local food
		Ecosystem health
		Sustainability
		Soil as natural resource
	D	Genetic modification?
	Responsibility, green, retrofit/infill,	
Tra franchistra alex ::-	incentives for greening,	I., C11
Infrastructure	maintenance	Infill
		Green infrastructure
T. (C 1: 1 1	Enhancing livability
Intergovernmental	Coordinate, share resources,	
cooperation	communicate	Creates efficiency
		Build partnerships
		Reduces destructive competition
Lake Michigan	Sustainable water source	Avoid need for new water sources /

		expensive infrastructure
		Ecosystem function
		Lakeshore communities
		Source of identity
Open space	Network shapes regional identity	Quality of life
Open space	Network shapes regional identity	Reduces fragmentation
		Ecological function
		Biodiversity
Planning	Coordinated, regular adjustment	Flexibility
Training	Coordinated, regular adjustifient	Local decision-marking
		Not piecemeal
Public transportation	Alternative modes,	Not piecemeai
and environment	environmentally responsible	Choice
and chynomich	environmentally responsible	Reduces dependence on cars
		Lessens environmental impact
		Environmental protection
Redevelopment	Reinvestment in communities	Infill
reacveropment	Tentvestment in communices	Enhancing livability
	Regional open space, aquifer and	Zittarienig nvacinty
Stormwater	watershed planning	Flood mitigation
	watershear Promises 8	Groundwater recharge
		Drinking water
		Waterway protection
		Erosion control (water quality)
	Farm products, agricultural	(,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Support for agriculture	landscapes as regional assets	Impacts and assets of agriculture
	1 0	Soil and water conservation
		Land use regulation and taxation
		Genetically modified food
		Food access
Transportation and		
development	Preamble to SAFETEA-LU	
Water quality	Improve water quality	Support water supply
		Recreation
		Reduce economic damage
Water supply	Abundant, sustainable, water	Support people and economy